

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: DeSimone et al. Serial No.: 09/516,482 Filed: March 1, 2000

METHODS OF MAKING FOAMED

MATERIALS USING SURFACTANTS

AND CARBON DIOXIDE

Date: August 23, 2001

Examiner: M.Bagwell

Group Art Unit: 1711

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231



AMENDMENT A

Sir:

For:

Responsive to the Office Action dated May 29, 2001, please reconsider the application in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks. Attached hereto is a marked up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The marked up version of the changes to the claims is captioned "<u>Version With Markings To Show</u> Changes Made".

In the Claims:

Please amend the following claims:

(Amended) A method of producing a foamed material, said method comprising:

contacting a mixture comprising a first thermoplastic polymer and a second thermoplastic polymer with a blowing agent, wherein the first thermoplastic polymer has a higher percent crystallinity than the second thermoplastic polymer; and

subjecting the mixture to conditions sufficient to create a thermodynamic instability in the mixture to foam the mixture, the mixture comprising the first and second thermoplastic polymers having a percent crystallinity lower than the first thermoplastic polymer;

wherein the foamed material formed by said method has a plurality of distinct void spaces formed therein.

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